

## Message Text

SECRET

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71  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV: RBARRY  
APPROVED BY S/S-O: ALLAN OTTO  
C: MR. FUERTH (SUBS)  
OSD/ISA: JPOOR

----- 032357

O 290202Z AUG 76 ZFF6  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW NIACT IMMEDIATE  
INFO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 214454 TOSEC 240012

EXDIS WHITE HOUSE PLEASE PASS SECRETARY KISSINGER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PMIL, UR, US

SUBJECT: COLLISION WITH SOVIET SUBMARINE

1. WE HAVE INFORMED SOVIET MED FLEET COMMANDER AND  
SOVIET EMBASSY HERE OF COLLISION BETWEEN SOVIET ECHO II  
CLASS SUBMARINE AND US FRIGATE IN MEDITERRANEAN.  
NEITHER VESSEL SUSTAINED SERIOUS DAMAGE.

2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MESSAGE WHICH COMSIXTHFLT  
PASSED TO COMMANDER OF SOVIET MED FLEET:

BEGIN TEXT:

HAVE RECEIVED REPORT THAT SOVIET NUCLEAR CRUISE MISSILE  
SUBMARINE HAS COLLIDED WITH US NAVY SHIP VOGUE (FF1047)  
AT 281530Z AT 36-02N, 20-36E. VOGUE REPORTS DAMAGE TO  
FORWARD AREA OF SUBMARINE SAIL. AT LAST REPORT, SUBMARINE  
WAS ON THE SURFACE. HAVE DIRECTED US FORCES TO REMAIN  
CLEAR OF IMMEDIATE AREA. US FORCES STANDING BY TO  
SECRET

SECRET

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PROVIDE ALL NECESSARY ASSISTANCE. REQUEST ACKNOWLEDGE.

END TEXT

3. SOVIET FLAGSHIP ACKNOWLEDGED MESSAGE WITH THANKS.

4. DEPARTMENT CONVEYED SAME MESSAGE TO SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELOR TARASENKO AT 2015Z AUGUST 28 WITH REQUEST THAT IT BE RELAYED TO MOSCOW. DEPT OFFICER ADDED THAT IT DID NOT APPEAR TO US THAT SOVIET SUB HAD SUFFERED SEVERE DAMAGE, THAT US VESSEL HAD INCURRED SOME DAMAGE AND COULD NOT PROCEED UNDER ITS OWN POWER AND THAT IF SOVIET SUB REQUIRED ANY ASSISTANCE US FORCES IN AREA WOULD BE GLAD TO PROVIDE IT. SOVIET EMBOFF PROMISED TO CONVEY THIS TO MOSCOW.

5. FYI: INITIAL REPORTS INDICATE THAT ALTHOUGH US VESSELS HAD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH SOVIET SUB IN THIS AREA FOR SEVERAL DAYS, VOGUE WAS NOT IN CONTACT IMMEDIATELY BEFORE COLLISION. SOVIET PERISCOPE WAS SIGHTED ONE HALF MILE ON VOGUE PORT QUARTER 30 MINUTES BEFORE COLLISION. SOVIET SUB THEN BROACHED ON VOGUE PORT QUARTER, PARALLELED VOGUE AND THEN TURNED INTO HER FROM A RANGE OF ABOUT 65 YARDS. SUB STRUCK VOGUE PORT QUARTER WHILE AWASH, ROLLED ABOUT 45 DEGREES TO PORT, PROCEEDED UNDER VOGUE FROM PORT TO STARBOARD. SUB SURFACED ABOUT 1546, INVESTIGATED TOPSIDE DAMAGE AND SUBMERGED AGAIN AT 1550Z. APPARENTLY IT LATER SURFACED AGAIN. END FYI.

EAGLEBURGER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SHIP ACCIDENTS, NAVAL SHIPS, SUBMARINES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE214454  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RBARRY  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760366-1622  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t1976089/aaaaahcx.tel  
**Line Count:** 91  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <12 MAY 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <07 SEP 2004 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** COLLISION WITH SOVIET SUBMARINE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MMOL, UR, US  
**To:** MOSCOW  
**Type:** TE  
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